

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL PRESS INTERVIEW ON POLITICAL FUTURE

REF: LIMA A-032

SUMMARY: IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A CORRESPONDENT OF DIE WELT ON FEBRUARY 9, PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ ELABORATED ON THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED TUPAC AMARU PLAN. THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE INTERVIEW, PUBLISHED IN EL COMERCIO FEBRUARY 13, FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM. END SUMMARY.

1. MORALES BERMUDEZ RESPONDED AT LENGTH TO ALMOST ALL OF THE GENERAL QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE BY HIS INTERLOCUTOR. HE REFUSED, HOWEVER, TO MAKE ANYTHING BUT VERY GENERAL COMMENTS ON QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE CARETAS INTERVIEW WITH FORMER PRESIDENT VELASCO (REF AIRGRAM). HIS FAVORABLE COMMENTS ON THE NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION ARE REPORTED BY USIS IN SEPTEL. MORALES BERMUDEZ' REMARKS RELATING TO THE POLITICAL FUTURE, WHILE BEARING NO GREAT SURPRISES, DO CARRY GOP PRONOUNCEMENTS ONE STEP FURTHER ALONG THE ROAD TO SPECIFICS.

2. IN REFERRING TO THE TUPAC AMARU PLAN, MORALES BERMUDEZ MAKES A DISTINCTION BETWEEN A GENERAL "POLITICAL PLAN" AND A MORE SPECIFIC SET OF GOALS, A CONCRETE PROGRAM "THAT ESTABLISHES NEW
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OPPORTUNITIES IN WHICH THESE POLITICAL ACTS (MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, A NEW CONSTITUTION, GENERAL ELECTIONS) ARE GOING TO BE REALIZED AND THE MECHANISMS THROUGH WHICH THEY ARE GOING TO TAKE PLACE". HE SAID THAT THIS CONCRETE PROGRAM IS BEING ELABORATED IN THE LIGHT OF PUBLIC COMMENT AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE TUPAC AMARU PLAN, BUT DID NOT INDICATE A MORE SPECIFIC TIME FRAME THAN 1977-1980.

3. IN HIS CRITICISM OF PAST POLITICAL PRACTICES THE PRESIDENT HINTED AT A POSSIBLE CORPORATE MECHANISM FOR FUTURE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION. HE REMINDED THE DIE WELT CORRESPONDENT THAT IN THE PAST SMALL BUT VERY POWERFUL ECONOMIC GROUPS CONNECTED TO TRADITIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES CONTROLLED DIRECT CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT. OTHER GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS HAD LITTLE VOICE IN GOVERNMENT. "WHEN WE REFER TO A SOCIAL DEMOCRACY OF FULL PARTICIPATION", HE CONTINUED, "WE DON'T DENY PARTICIPATION OF EXISTING POLITICAL PARTIES OR THOSE THAT COULD EXIST IN PERU, BUT WE DO ADD TO THESE THE PARTICIPATION OF POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS." AS EXAMPLES, HE CITED PEASANT GROUPS, INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS. ASKED IF THESE VERY ORGANIZATIONS CREATED DURING THE SO-CALLED FIRST PHASE OF THE REVOLUTION WERE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY OF PERU'S CURRENT PROBLEMS, MORALES BERMUDEZ RESPONDED IN THE NEGATIVE. "THE COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS", HE SAID, "ARE GENERATED IN THE FIRST PLACE BY THE MODELS OF ECONOMIC PRODUCTION, BY A FAULT THAT EXISTS IN THE STRUCTURE OF ECONOMIC PRODUCTION". THIS PRAGMATIC APPROACH IS EMPHASIZED IN THE STATEMENT: "AS A GOVERNMENT WE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN BEING TOLD THAT A CERTAIN LAW IS MORE TO THE RIGHT THAN TO THE LEFT, THAT WE ARE GOING BACKWARDS, OR WHATEVER. WHAT DOES INTEREST US IS TO LEGISLATE WITH A REALISTIC ATTITUDE."

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